(c) what action has been taken to ensure that the targets fixed in the annual Hindi programme with regard to the purchase of Hindi typewriters by the Department of Official Language are implemented properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) In so far as Department of Mines and Department of Coal are concerned Devnagri typewriters are available in all the subordinate offices/undertakings. There is not even a single office under these Departments where Devnagri typewriter is not available.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Department of Official Language prepares an annual programme every year for implementation of Official Language Policy of the Union in which targets are fixed for implementation of Official Language including purchase of Devnagri typewriters. A copy of the annual programme issued by the Department of Official Language is sent to all the subordinate offices/undertakings for compliance. Besides these offices are also inspected from time to time with a view to review the progress of Hindi and to ensure the achievement of the targets fixed in the annual programme.

Taping the Conventional Energy Sources

4047. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State are taking any initiative to tap the conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, which States have made maximum effort in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to attract more investment in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The States have been implementing a wide range of programmes/schemes such as biogas, improved chulha, integrated rural energy programme, special area demonstration programme, small hydro power, biomass gasifier, wind power, solar power, biomass/co-generation power, solar photovoltaics, solar water heating systems and solar cookers, SPV pumps and windmills and urban and industrial waste etc. throughout the country for promotion and utilization of Non-conventional Energy.

(b) The performance of Non-conventional Energy programmes in the States is based on the potential available in the States and also on proposals received from the States. State-wise achievements made under different Non-conventional Energy programmes are given in annexure. (See Appendix 189, Annexure No. 99).

(c) The Ministry has taken various steps to attract investment in Non-conventional Energy Programmes which include various fiscal and financial incentives such as concessional excise and custom duties, accelerated 100% depreciation, subsidies/financial assistance and soft loans through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) a public sector undertaking of this Ministry. A brief statement on subsidies/incentives provided by the Ministry is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Brief Statement on subsidies/incentives provided on Power Generation through various programmes of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

Sl. No	Programme/Sector	Subsidy
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Wind Power	For Demonstration Projects upto 60% of the equipment cost subject to certain bench marks.
2.	Biomass Gasifiers	30 to 60% on certain bench marks for the projects owned by Cooperatives, Panchayats, NGOs Central/State Agencies, individuals/entrepreneurs etc.
3.	Grid Interactive Solar PV Power	Rs. 2 crores/100 KW (Maximum)
4.	Small Hydro Power Capital Subsidy	
	a. Hilly Regions and A & N Islands (Projects upto 100KW)	Rs. 15000 per KW or actual cost of the project whichever is lower.
	b. Projects upto 3MW in NE States.	Rs. 3.00 crores per MW or 50% of cost of the project whichever is lower.
Interest Subsidy upto 3 MW		
	a. For projects in hilly, NE region and A & N Islands	5% with maximum Rs. 1.12 crores per MW.
	b. For projects upto 3 MW in other	2.5% with maximum Rs. 38.3 lakhs per MW.

(1)	(2)	(3)
	regions.	
5.	Biomass Power/Co-generation	
	a. minimum exportable power 45 MW (in Group of Mills through Joint Venture Mode)	Rs. 35 lakhs/MW of surplus power (max. Rs. 31.50 crores/project) to Rs. 45 lakhs/MW of surplus power (max. Rs. 40.50 crores/project).
	b. Minimum exportable power 9 MW (Single Mill through Independent Power Producer Mode (IPP).	Rs. 35 lakhs/MW of surplus power (max. Rs. 6.30 crores/project) to Rs. 45 lakhs/MW of surplus power (max. Rs. 8.10 crores/project).
6.	Urban Municipal & Industrial Waste	
	a. Capital subsidy	Upto 50% max. 3.00 crores per MW for demonstration projects.
	b. Interest subsidy	To reduce interest rate upto 7.5% to be paid to Financial Institutions.

Exploitation of tidal force on Hooghly River

4048. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any schemes are being contemplated to exploit the tidal force on the river Hooghly and its adjacent rivers in West Bengal to generate electric power;

(b) if so, the present position of such projects; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to explore the possibility of generating power through tidal energy, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has carried out a feasibility study for construction of a mini-tidal power plant of 3 MW capacity in Durgaduani Creek in Sunderbans, West Bengal. Based on the requisite field studies and computer modeling exercises, a detailed Project Report is being prepared through the West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency, Calcutta. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) from the West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency to this Ministry is expected by the end of this year. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy